



Attorney's Docket No.: 24050.042

PATENT

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3 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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5 In the Application of:

6 Raimar Boehlke, Werner Schwartz,
Thomas Ischinger and Thomas Ehrl

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8 Serial No.: 09/847,676

9 Filed: 05/02/2001

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11 For the Invention of:

12 APPARATUS FOR GUIDING SUTURES
THROUGH A MEMBRANE WALL
13 NEAR THE EDGE REGION OF AN
OPENING PROVIDED THEREON

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15 Commissioner for Patents

16 P.O. Box 1450

17 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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20 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

1 A. **Introductory Comments**

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3 This Preliminary Amendment is being filed together with a request under 37 C.F.R.
4 § 1.53(d) for a continuation prosecution application based on prior Patent Application Serial No.
5 09/847,676 (hereafter the “‘676 Application”) filed on May 2, 2001. Please amend the ‘676
6 Application as follows:

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